

Application No.: 10/697831

Case No.: 59055US002

REMARKS

Claims 1-50 are pending. Claims 9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, 30, 32, 33, 35-39, 41, 42, 44, 46, 47, 49 and 50 are cancelled without prejudice to their later prosecution in an application claiming priority herefrom. Claims 10, 14, 18, 31, 34, 40 and 43 are amended herein. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

§ 102/103 Rejections

Claims 30, 32, 35-39, 41, 42, 44, 46, 47, 49 and 50 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as purportedly anticipated by US 6,649,299 (Appleby), or, in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Appleby taken alone. Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Appleby taken alone. Claims 9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, 35, 37, 42, 44, 46 and 47 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Appleby in view of additional references. Claims 9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, 30, 32, 33, 35-39, 41, 42, 44, 46, 47, 49 and 50 are cancelled herein.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1-8, 22-29, 45 and 48 are allowed.

Claims Under Objection

Claims 10, 14, 18, 31, 34, 40 and 43 are acknowledged as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claims 10, 14, 18, 31, 34, 40 and 43 so as to place them in independent form.

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Additional claim fees for this amendment are computed as follows:

Claims As Amended						
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4) Highest No. Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims	25	Minus	**	50	0	x \$50.00 \$0.00
Independent Claims	9	Minus	***	6	3	x \$200.00 \$600.00
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims, if no such fee has been previously paid						\$360.00
Total Additional Fee For This Amendment						\$600.00
** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" is less than 20, insert "20" in next space.						
*** If the "Highest No. previously Paid For" is less than 3, insert "3" in next space.						

Fees

Any required fee will be made at the time of submission via EFS-Web. In the event fees are not or cannot be paid at the time of EFS-Web submission, please charge any fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Please charge any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Please charge any additional fees associated with the prosecution of this application to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. This authorization includes the fee for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a). To the extent any such extension should become necessary, it is hereby requested.

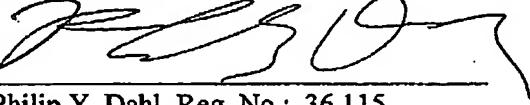
Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

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In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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February 20, 2007

Date

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833